

# JORDAN TIMES

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جورن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

AMMAN, FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1978 — RABIE AL THANI 28, 1398

## French General named for UN force

PARIS, April 6 (R). — French Brig-Gen. Jean-Paul Cug, a 51-year-old artilleryman, is expected to be appointed as deputy commander of United Nations peacekeeping troops in Lebanon, informed sources said today. The defence ministry said yesterday that a French general would get the post of second-in-command to Maj-Gen. Emmanuel Erskine of Ghana and that France would handle the U.N. force's logistical support. Brig-Gen. Cug, who served in the Indochina and Algerian wars, is at army headquarters in Paris. His last regimental command was that of the parachute artillery unit of the French overseas intervention force.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

## 1,000 mourn dead Arab youth

JERUSALEM, April 6 (R). — About 1,000 mourners gathered for the funeral of an Arab shot dead by an Israeli defence guard. Police who with security forces watched the funeral from a distance said there were 1,000 people. Haili Ibn Saud Taban, 20, from East Jerusalem, was killed yesterday near the spot where an Israeli soldier was shot and fatally wounded the previous night. Pupils at two Arab schools in Ramallah and Nablus on the occupied West Bank boycotted classes today in protest at the shooting of Taban. Demonstrating pupils who halted traffic and stoned passing vehicles were used back into the school yards by security forces.

Volume 3, Number 722

## Badran declares trip to Libya "fruitful"

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — Prime Minister Mudar Badran returned from a three-day visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya where he delivered a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Libyan state Col. Muammar Qadhafi. Premier Badran also held talks with top Libyan officials on current Arab issues and bilateral relations. On arrival at Amman airport Mr. Badran told reporters that his trip was friendly and fruitful. He added that the message he delivered to Col. Qadhafi dealt with efforts to reach a peaceful Arab position in the Middle East situation. He explained that his talks in Libya concentrated on strengthening Arab action and on exploiting Arab resources to the common cause. He went on to say that Col. Qadhafi expressed his deep appreciation for King Hussein's position and Jordan's steadfastness in considering its historic and national responsibilities. He stated the Libyan leader endorsed His Majesty's call for an Arab summit meeting. Bilateral relations were also reviewed, and it was agreed that cooperation in all fields should be expanded and that meetings between both countries be continued. An agreement on economic, cultural and scientific cooperation and an agreement on cultural cooperation were signed between the two countries, Prime Minister Badran said.

An invitation was extended to Mr. Badran's opposite number, Abdul 'Ati Al Abeldi and Foreign Minister Dr. Ali Tureiki to Jordan, which they accepted, he said. Before leaving the Libyan Jamahiriya Mr. Badran went on to the Jabal Akhdar area where he was briefed on several matters.

## Women's attack on Soviet and Cuban interference in Africa draws protest

AMMAN, April 6 (R). — The United Nations and its allies today angrily today after a report by British Foreign Secretary David Owen over the role in Africa.

Speaking across the dinner table to foreign ambassadors, Dr. Owen warned of serious consequences if Cuban troops get more involved in Rhodesia and Namibia (Southwest Africa).

He also called on the United Nations to speak up against Soviet and Cuban efforts to subvert the Eritrean revolt in the Horn of Africa.

His speech immediately set off a diplomatic row and Ethiopian ambassador Ato Ayalew De-Giorgis, who walked out in protest, today denounced it as an affront to the honour and dignity of the Ethiopian people.

At the Soviet embassy, labelling the speech a complete distortion, sent a note to the Foreign Office regarding Dr. Owen's charges.

Feudal barons

The foreign office reported numerous embassies here including Cuba and the Soviet Union -- had asked for transcripts of the speech, Somalia, Ethiopia's adversary in the Horn of Africa, also asked by Dr. Owen's aides. Its ambassador asked an early appointment with Dr. Owen's Foreign Secretary.

It was Dr. Owen's strongest statement on Soviet-Cuban policy in Africa. To underline Britain's concern he delivered it in what is normally a staid,

white-tie social occasion -- the Lord Mayor of London's "Easton Banquet".

In a biting analogy, Dr. Owen compared Soviet and Cuban forces with private armies of the Middle Ages which "moved around tilting the military balance indiscriminately at the whim of the feudal barons."

He said there was now the prospect of Cuban troops fighting the Eritrean liberation movement which they previously supported with advice and training -- "presumably with Soviet encouragement."

In the Ogaden desert war, Soviet backing for Ethiopia had ended a conflict which the Kremlin itself started by arming Somalia beyond the needs of self-defence, he added.

Today Dr. Owen was at a meeting of the British cabinet but there was little doubt of broad British political support for his attack.

Newspapers here gave the speech splash treatment. A Foreign Office spokesman said the telephones had been ringing all day and the speech had sparked "very considerable interest."

The spokesman denied suggestions the text had been checked with the United States in advance but acknowledged the Foreign Office was in close contact with Washington on the situation in the Horn of Africa.

He also refuted a claim by the Ethiopian ambassador that the speech was interference in Addis Ababa's internal affairs. The Soviet note, delivered to the Foreign Office by a first secretary, was not published. But officials said it briefly set out Moscow's refutation.



His Majesty King Hussein chats with visiting Secretary General of the Arab League Dr. Mahmoud Riad at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on Thursday. (JNA photo)

## King Hussein briefs Mahmoud Riad on Jordan's plan for common action

AMMAN, April 6 (Agencies). — Arab League Secretary General Mahmoud Riad arrived in Amman today from Saudi Arabia and was received by His Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon.

Mr. Riad met earlier with acting Premier Abdul Salam Al Majali and Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, who is acting Foreign Minister.

Mr. Riad reported to the King on the results of his current tour of Arab countries where he contacted Arab leaders with a view to reaching a common position for Arab action.

During the meeting the King and Mr. Riad reviewed the current situation and ways of strengthening the Arab position. The secretary general was briefed on the plan of action proposed by the Jordanian government which will be submitted at the Arab summit which King Hussein has called for.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf and Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh.

Preparation

Upon arrival in Amman, Mr. Riad stressed that Arab solidarity and joint Arab action are the only way to confront Israel.

Mr. Riad's visit here is part of a tour of Arab capitals to rally support for the summit meeting, also proposed by north Yemen and Sudan. He visited Damascus before going to Riyadh yesterday and he was expected to go to Gulf capitals after Amman.

But though the chances of holding a summit have improved, officials here say there are still major problems on the road to a successful meeting.

Jordanian officials say they do not expect a summit meeting to convene in the very near future and preparations could take two or more months.

Syria, Algeria, South Yemen, the Libyan Jamahiriya and the Palestine Liberation Organisation which form an anti-Egyptian front, and Iraq have to be persuaded to attend.

Syrian press criticises summit call

DAMASCUS, April 6 (R). — Syrian newspapers today criticised calls for an Arab summit conference to heal divisions caused by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative with Israel.

Al Baath, newspaper of the ruling Baath party, said: "Arab solidarity is a pressing issue. But it should serve to liquidate traitors and agents and not as a cover-up for those who secretly and publicly seek to liquidate the Arab cause and humiliate the Arabs."

The semi-official Al Thawra said: "Sadat's intrigue has left no room for the good intentions which have prompted some Arabs to seek a summit."

New incidents in Italy's wave of violence were reported overnight. Bombs damaged a Rome bank and two car showrooms. A firebomb in Bologna damaged an office.

These attacks apparently reflected far-left anger at a police ban on a Rome demonstration tomorrow which was to have protested against the detention of more than 100 leftists since the Moro kidnap.

Signor Moro, Italy's leading politician, was grabbed in a Rome ambush on March 16 when his five guards were killed by the far-left Red Brigades.

From captivity this week he sent a letter pleading for an exchange of prisoners to set him free but all major figures

## Waldheim urges fast withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon

UNITED NATIONS, April 6 (R). — Secretary General Kurt Waldheim has appealed to Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin for the speedy withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon, a U.N. spokesman said today. He said the appeal was sent through the Israeli Embassy in London, where Mr. Waldheim is now on a visit.

The spokesman said in a statement that build-up and deployment of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was continuing and that the force was establishing itself effectively in the area of operations.

The secretary general is especially concerned with the implementation of Security Council Resolution 425 in relation to the withdrawal of Israeli forces," he continued.

"In this connection, the secretary general has been in continuous contact with the Israeli authorities and has now addressed a personal message to Prime Minister Begin again urging speedy implementation of Security Council Resolution 425."

"The secretary general hopes that there will be early and positive action by Israel and that the conditions will soon emerge in which the U.N. Interim force in Lebanon will be able fully to carry out its mandate."

Under resolution 425, adopted on March 19, the Council established UNIFIL with the task of "confirming the withdrawal of Israeli forces, restoring international peace and security and assisting the government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area."

In a related development, a Council spokesman said Ambassador Abdulla Bishara of Kuwait, acting on behalf of the Arab delegations, yesterday called for early consultations among Council members on the question of Israeli withdrawal.

The request was conveyed at a meeting with the acting president of the council, Ambassador James Leonard of the United States. Mr. Bishara, himself a council member, expressed the "concern of the Arab members of the U.N. over the lack of implementation of parts of resolutions 425 and most especially the non-withdrawal of Israeli forces."

Two envoys scheduled another meeting today, the spokesman added.

peace force troops were helping the Israelis in a search for the two missing men.

Bodies held by PLO

UNITED NATIONS, April 6 (R). — The U.N. said today it had information from Beirut that the PLO was in possession of the bodies of five Israelis killed yesterday.

Reports from Israel today said that three Israelis were killed and four wounded, including two who were listed as missing.

The U.N. spokesman indicated his information originated with the PLO and was not independently verified by the U.N. He said: "The information we have is that five Israelis were killed and we are asking the Red Cross to help return the bodies."

as demanded by Begin".

They said their demonstration was in reply to a mass meeting attended by an estimated 45,000 in Tel Aviv last Saturday which appealed for "peace now".

Supporters of the prime minister said they were organising a larger counter-demonstration.

They said they wanted to prove that a majority of Israelis wanted a secure peace.

Four suspects arrested in search for Moro

ROME, April 6 (R). — Police today arrested three men and a woman possibly linked with the Red Brigades guerrillas who kidnapped ex-premier Aldo Moro three weeks ago today.

The arrests just outside Naples were the only hint of progress in the search for Signor Moro, 61, and the far-left kidnapers who hold him in what they say is a "people's prison."

The police said the arrests were made in a dawn raid on a summer apartment, on the coast about 40 kms. north of Naples.

Arms, ammunition and a silencer for a revolver were found. So were two radios able to receive and transmit, said the police, and documents published by an extremist group called "front line."

in Italy, including the Pope, today remained united in rejecting any form of blackmail by the guerrillas.

The Vatican newspaper l'Osservatore Romano said yesterday that "the unanimous view here is: No retreat before blackmail."

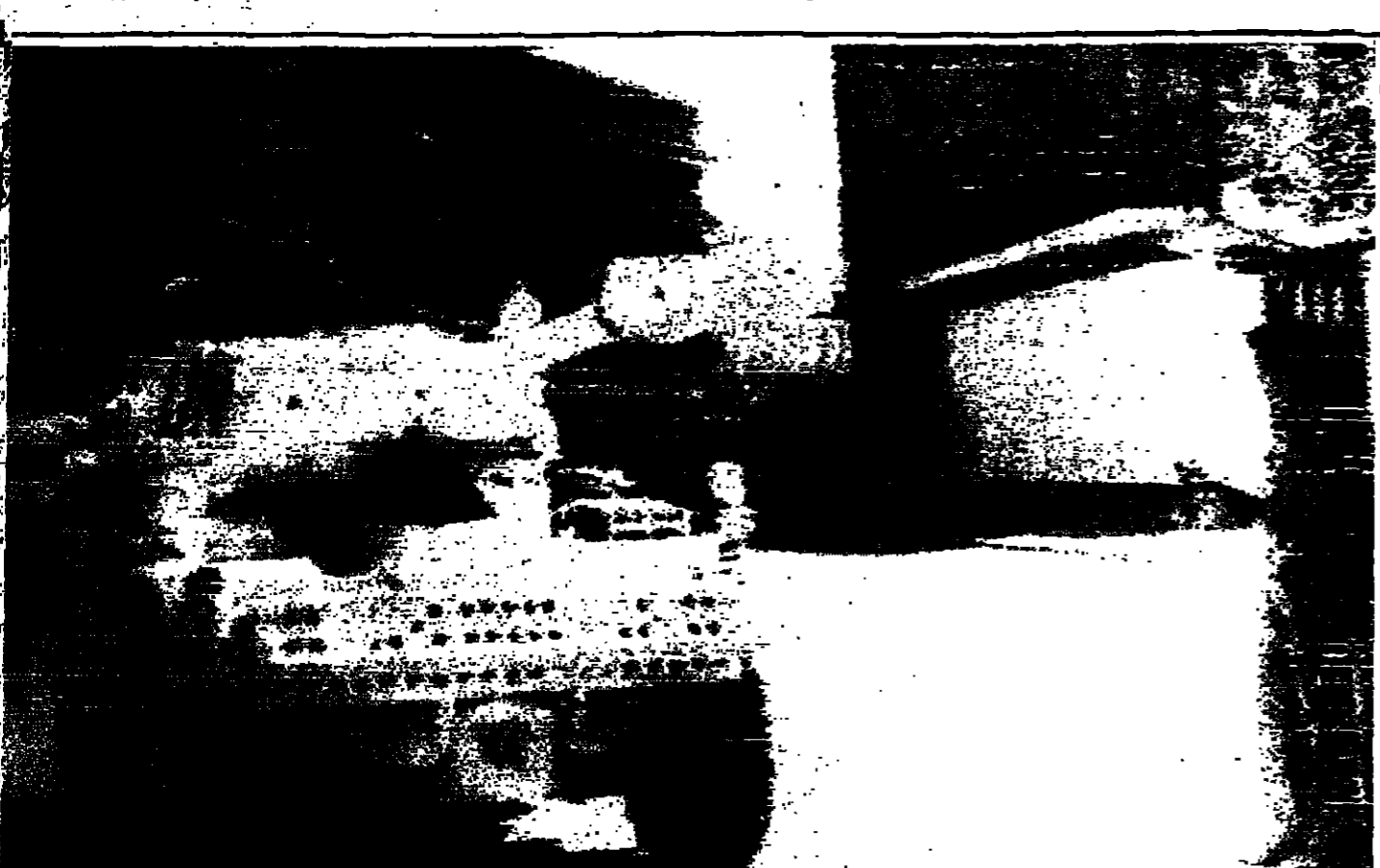
A Milan newspaper, il Giornale, reported that negotiations between the Red Brigades and a Vatican envoy had started in Switzerland possibly through a go-between. A Vatican denial is expected.

Police said the documents which they seized near Naples today could lead to an expanded search for Signor Moro in other parts of Italy.

They arrested Maria Ardizzone, 28, Lanfranco Caminiti, 29, both students, Davide Sac-



Supporters of Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin collect signatures on a pro-Begin petition in Tel Aviv on Thursday. (AP wirephoto)



U.N. troops in a convoy led by an armoured car drive past the St. George Hotel in the civil-war-shattered hotel district of Beirut on Thursday. (AP wirephoto)

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## The mediator's contradictions are showing

The speech by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton in Atlanta, Georgia Wednesday contains some refreshing clarifications about the need for an Israeli territorial withdrawal on all fronts, but it also contains some distressing contradictions in American policy. The contradiction we find most inappropriate is the American view of the Palestinians as this is matched up against the American view of the Israelis. Mr. Atherton stated in his speech that Resolution 242 is a package that is to be carried out as a whole, and on all fronts, though he specified that the extent of Israeli withdrawal in the West Bank is something that can only be resolved in negotiations. But then, a few minutes later, Mr. Atherton says the question of the representation of the Palestinians has been a tricky one, because the Israelis and the Americans do not accept the PLO "in view of the PLO's non-acceptance of resolution 242 as the basis for negotiations and its refusal to state publicly its willingness to recognise the right of all states in the area, which include Israel, to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries..."

What has happened to that important procedural requirement, stated just a few minutes before in Mr. Atherton's speech, of resolving matters by a process of direct negotiations? Is the centrality of negotiated agreements pertinent only when it comes to an Israeli withdrawal, and not to an enunciation of Palestinian rights?

What kind of farcical peacemaking process are we involved in if Israel acts only after negotiations, and the Palestinian people act only according to the irrational dictates of Israel's anti-Palestinian racism? Why not negotiate the principles of 242 as one is asked to negotiate the principles of withdrawal and peace?

The PLO itself is not the problem that holds up peace talks, as the Americans and the Israelis claim. The problem is the Israeli national house of cards that is fatally vulnerable to a recognition of the Palestinian national reality. For Mr. Atherton to institutionalise this Zionist denial of Palestinian rights into American policy in the Middle East is a combination of bad politics and bad morality, unbecoming of a mediator.

Mediators who go around proclaiming their own contradictions are bad mediators, doomed to failure by their intellectual docility in the face of Zionist coercion. That's the problem, not the PLO or the Palestinians or the many other excuses that the Israelis come up with to keep the negotiating process sidetracked. The problem is that Zionism is stronger than America, and America's mediating efforts are hamstrung by an inability to play a coherent and constructive mediating role in view of the veto that Israel has imposed on American policy. This is the contradiction that the Americans apparently are not willing to face up to, and it comes through loud and clear in Mr. Atherton's speeches.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

"Within the next few days King Hussein's emissaries will be leaving for Arab capitals carrying what might be regarded as the last serious call in the present dark phase of Arab history to save what can be saved before it is too late," AL RA'I said in an editorial Thursday.

Referring to the cabinet meeting under King Hussein last Monday to work out an agenda for an Arab summit, the newspaper describes the meeting as a new initiative to "mend Arab relations and rebuild Arab solidarity on clear and sound bases."

Jordan still believes that a unified Arab position is the only way to surmount causes of weakness and division and confront Zionist encroachment on Arab existence itself, Al Ra'i says. The newspaper hopes that Arab leaders will discuss Jordan's massive, sincerely and impartially, as a basis for action in the coming dangerous stage.

AL DUSTOUR commends Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's endorsement of convening an Arab summit and of Jordan's efforts towards this end.

The newspaper notes with satisfaction President Anwar Sadat's expressed readiness to attend such a summit. At the same time, the newspaper adds, the intensive efforts of President Jaafar Nimeiry of Sudan to cement Arab solidarity are indicative of Arab determination to institute a unified position, indispensable to meet the tremendous challenges threatening the Arab nation as a whole.

## National News Roundup

### New appointments transfers planned in diplomatic service

AMMAN, April 6 (JT). — A new list of appointments and transfers in the diplomatic service is being prepared by the Foreign Ministry involving a number of ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary, Al Ra'i reported. According to the newspaper Mr. Salah Abu Zeid, Mr. Naji Abdul Aziz and Mr. Diab Al Oran, the Jordanian ambassadors to London, Khartoum and Baghdad respectively will be transferred to the Foreign Office in Amman. Ambassador to Bonn Ibrahim Izzedine will be transferred to Amman for appointment as ambassador to another European capital; Marwan Doudin, the former Director General of the Jordan Cooperatives Organisation, will be appointed ambassador in an East European capital, Mr. Hani Khalifeh will be appointed ambassador to a European capital, and Mr. Hisham Al Shawwa will be transferred to Amman to be appointed ambassador to an Arab capital.

### Pakistani military team visits forward army positions

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — The visiting Pakistani military delegation led by Lt. Gen. Sadeq Rasheed Abbasi today paid a visit to the Karameh Martyrs monument in the Jordan Valley. The delegation toured a number of forward army positions and inspected units of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division.

## Economic and Business News

### IIC team due here for talks on joint ventures

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — A team from the International Investment Corporation will visit Jordan within the next two months to discuss setting up joint ventures with the Jordan Civil Pension Fund, an official source at the fund said today.

### Islamic council bankers will meet to discuss cooperation

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — Central bank governors of Islamic countries will meet here on April 15 to discuss financial and currency cooperation among member countries. The week-long meeting is being organised by the general secretariat of the Islamic Congress at Jeddah.

## PERSPECTIVE

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### Institute of strategic studies to be set up at U. of J.

AMMAN, April 6 (JT). — An institute of strategic studies is to be set up at the University of Jordan. The university's board of trustees has formed a commission to oversee the establishment of the new institute.

### Child Welfare Society elects new board

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — Her Highness Princess Basma yesterday presided over the annual general meeting of the Children's Welfare Society. The annual report was read and a new administrative board elected which includes Princess Basma as president and twelve other members. The society now runs eight child nutrition centres in the governorate of Ma'an which care for nearly 700 children. It also runs a nursery in Amman which provides day care for 30 children with working mothers whose families have a limited income.

### Cabinet endorses death sentences

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — The cabinet today endorsed death sentences by a special court against four men in the occupied Arab territories for selling property to Israelis.

### Plan to give Amman street names forges ahead

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — Mayor Ma'n Abu Nuwwar yesterday chaired an Amman municipal committee meeting to finalise the plan for naming and numbering streets in Amman. Mayor Abu Nuwwar said that about 30,000 plaques have been installed in the city in cooperation with the Department of Statistics. A further 130,000 plaques will be installed within the next few weeks. Mr. Abu Nuwwar explained that Amman is being divided into nine sectors. Each sector is given a number which will be placed beneath the code number 111 assigned to the city of Amman, with the street number appearing on the right.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Book Exhibition

The exhibition of books on fine arts continues today at the University of Jordan Library. The exhibition is on for one week ending Saturday.

## University of Jordan president resigns

AMMAN, April 6 (JT). — President of the University of Jordan Dr. Ishaq Farhan today submitted his resignation to the University's Board of Trustees. The resignation was accepted.

A source close to Dr. Farhan said the resignation was due to "obstacles that prevented him from carrying out a number of projects" and hindered the functioning of his administration.

According to the source, the present Jordanian ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Dr. Nassaruddin Al Assad, will succeed Dr. Farhan.

Dr. Al Assad served as the first president of the university when it was established in 1962.

## Potash Co. capital up from JD4.5m. to JD40m.

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — The Arab Potash Co. today held its annual meeting at the company's headquarters in Amman under the chairmanship of the Director General of the company, Mr. Ali Al Khasawneh.

Addressing the participants Mr. Al Khasawneh explained that the company's subscribed capital increased in 1977 from JD 4.5 m. to JD 40 m. This will increase to about JD 55 m.

Representatives of Arab governments and companies holding shares also attended today's meeting.

Mr. Khasawneh reviewed the company's achievements during the past year when the first stage of the project was carried out cheaper and quicker than had been expected. He pointed out that the company will build a model housing estate for its employees which will be completed within two years.

He added that the company was trying to secure low interest loans. It organised a meeting of potential financiers in London in June 1977 for this purpose.

Another meeting will be held in Amman on April 11. This meeting will be attended by representatives of the Kuwaiti Development Fund, the Arab Fund, the Islamic Bank, U.S. AID, the International Bank and a number of development funds in the Arab world.

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# Unbridled growth of Amman poses a challenge for budding regional planners

By Ian Kellas  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 6 — Is Jordan becoming a city state? This is a question that has worried planners at least since 1967. The population of Amman, already about 60 per cent of the total, is still growing at a much faster rate than the rest of the country. In 1977, 97 per cent of all manufacturing industry is concentrated in the region. A report prepared for the 1976 Development Conference went as far as to say that "aside from agriculture... Jordan's economy is the economy of a Amman region."

The government has introduced legislation designed to regulate investment outside the area of the capital. But if the government is to stop Amman's involuntary take-over, the best way of deciding how to do it is by planning a country in regions.

After a decade of talking about it, the idea of regional planning is now fast becoming a reality. The Jordan Valley Authority is already almost a regional government. The Amman Urban Region Planning Group was set up last year and is now busy designing a master plan for the area. And only last week the cabinet agreed to set up a special regional planning group with responsibility for northern Jordan.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, His Highness Prince Hassan has said "the regional plan that we have for the Amman region, which is beginning to take shape and the regional plan we have for the Jordan Valley development, will, I think, for the first time, give some kind of permanence to the idea of establishing home rule in these various areas in the years to come."

What is a region? So Jordan will be planned and maybe governed -- in future by regions. But the truth is that it has not yet been finally decided how big where these regions should be. The Amman region for instance covers an area roughly 10 kms in radius from the centre of the capital. But its boundaries are undefined and does not coincide with any administrative unit. The region is determined by principles of planning.

"A region is where the interdependence of any community is such that it is not possible to have a more balanced development throughout the country. One of the most important of these factors is water."

Well over half the population lives in an area where only six per cent of the country's water is to be found. The favoured plan at the moment for supplying Amman is to divert water from the King Talal Dam on the Zarqa River, but before it can be used for drinking purposes, it has to be treated.

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This is the first in a three part series on regional planning in Jordan. Jordan Times reporter Ian Kellas has been interviewing officials involved in this area, which is emerging as a key factor for development planners.

It has when services and population go on spiralling up in the capital city? Are there any limits to the continued growth of Amman? Will slums spring up on the outskirts? These are the sort of questions that the Amman planning group must try to answer.

The group was set up in July last year and is now preparing a master plan for the region to be ready in time for the next five year national plan.

But Mr. Hindiyeh is insistent that the idea of a rigid master plan is no good. Planning is a dynamic process. So the group will continue in existence monitoring and adapting their plans continuously.

Part of the group's duties is to "create measures needed to secure social equity." And according to Director of the group, Mr. Ghaleb Bagaeen, this includes "national equity."

"Most services are concentrated here in Amman," he explained, "and it is one of our major goals to distribute such activities in other regions." Does this then mean that development of services in the capital must be slowed down? The solution, Mr. Bagaeen said, is not that simple. You have to take into consideration the negative effect that a policy of that sort would have on the whole country.

Up to a point, however, he believes that the problem will solve itself. Amman is unusual in having so much empty space around in which to expand but there are other factors that will limit its growth and make for more balanced development throughout the country. One of the most important of these factors is water.

Well over half the population lives in an area where only six per cent of the country's water is to be found. The favoured plan at the moment for supplying Amman is to divert water from the King Talal Dam on the Zarqa River, but before it can be used for drinking purposes, it has to be treated.

What effect on the rest of the country, for instance does

the water will have to undergo rigorous treatment. There may come a time, Mr. Bagaeen said, when people will no longer be able to afford water. This is a question which is now under study.

Asked what other factors might limit growth in the future, Mr. Bagaeen said one major factor was that the government could not afford to provide enough parks for the city. "You are not only a productive man," he explained, "and you need green spaces." The problem of course, is that land in the capital has become astronomically expensive and the government owns very little of it.

While preparing the master plan for 1980 the group is meanwhile working on a number of "critical" problems. Traffic is one of these.

The traffic problem cannot be solved, Mr. Bagaeen said, just by widening a street here and there. Congestion is caused by the fact that too many cars are trying to get to the same place at the same time. This can only be avoided by careful land-use planning.

A second critical area for immediate action is housing. The priority is in the poorer areas of the city in the east and south. Up to 40,000 houses may be upgraded, and provided with improved sanitation, roads and social services. The group has prepared terms of reference for a feasibility study for this project. And the World Bank has promised its help.

**AID sponsorship**  
The Amman Urban Region Planning Group is largely sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) and consists of 26 specialists, covering every sort of

field from economics, to sociology. At present it is mainly occupied with compiling data about the region. But as well as producing plans it will also eventually have to recommend how the area should be governed in the future. The Amman planning group itself reports to a high level policy reference committee, under the supervision of the Crown Prince. A subcommittee of that body is currently discussing proposals to put before the cabinet about the whole question of regions in Jordan.



Mr. Ghaleb Bagaeen, Director of the Urban Region Planning Group.

According to Mr. Hindiyeh, they are now considering how many regions there should be in the country and what boundaries they should have. Then there is the question of coordinating regional plans. "Every one thinks we should have some regional authority," Mr. Hindiyeh said. "But it is still unclear what kind of hook-up there should be with the government." Some of the alternatives being discussed are that the National Planning Council should take control, or that a higher ministerial level committee should act as an umbrella group or even that there should be an altogether separate ministry for the regions.

Tomorrow: The Jordan Valley

## Coming & Going...

Red Crescent team off to Rabat

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — Dr. Ahmad Abu Qura, President of the Jordanian Red Crescent Society (RCS) left today for Rabat at the head of an RCS delegation to attend a conference of Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies due to open in the Moroccan capital tomorrow.

Bahraini cardiologist arrives

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — A Bahraini cardiologist, Dr. Ali Akbar Murad, arrived in Amman today for a visit. Dr. Murad, who works for the Ministry of Health in Bahrain, will visit the heart surgery section of Al Hussein Medical City and will meet with several Jordanian cardiologists.

Editor of Al Masirah visits Jordan

AMMAN, April 6 (JNA). — Chief Editor of the Bahraini newspaper Al Masirah, Khalifah Hassan Qassem, arrived here today for a three-day visit at the invitation of the Ministry of Information.

## LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian fil	Buying/Selling
U.S. dollar	307.00/309.00
U.K. sterling	575.00/579.00
W. German mark	152.50/153.40
Swiss franc	164.70/165.70
French franc	67.40/67.80
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.10/36.30
Japanese yen (for every 100)	140.50/141.30
Dutch guilder	142.80/143.70
Belgian franc (for every ten)	97.90/98.50
Swedish crown	67.20/67.60

## Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	PAR value	Volume traded	Opening price	Closing price
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	3,960	6.550	6.600
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	3,398	14.950	14.950
Jordan Phosphate Mines	JD 1,000	1,827	2.100	2.150
Arab Pharmaceutical Co.	JD 5,000	658	15.650	15.700
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	1,320	1.100	1.100
Jordan Tanning Co.	JD 5,000	1,007	7.300	7.300
Jordan - Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	25,511	1.050	1.050
Dar Aldawa Development & Investment Co.	JD 1,000	300	1.850	1.750
Jordan Hotels & Tourism Co.	JD 1,000	430	5.250	4.300
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	70	1.300	1.250
Jordan Ceramic Industries	JD 1,000	47	1.000	0.950
Jerusalem Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	211	2.250	2.300
Garage Owners Federation Office Co.	JD 1,000	4,432	3.750	3.700

Total volume traded, Thursday, April 6 JD 43,171

\* 50 per cent of share capital paid.  
\*\* 75 per cent of share capital paid.

# New investment bank will develop capital markets in Jordan

By John Bonar  
Special to the Jordan Times

Financial Market, Mr. Al Qadi said.

Is there a market in Jordan for this type of service? "I think so," replied Mr. Al Qadi. "The market here is developing, although it will take some time. From our point of view Jordan is an ideal place for our bank to be based. It is a developing country, with a number of medium and long-term projects in hand -- industrial, mining, agriculture and tourism -- which all require finance."



Mr. Abdul Qader Al Qadi.

Mr. Al Qadi, who before his departure for Qatar from Amman 14 years ago, held senior positions at the Jordan Development Board and the Jordan National Bank, says that currently there are two options open to most private sector companies in Amman seeking to expand -- "They can make a new capital issue or they can borrow on overdraft."

The new bank will be introducing new financial or capital instruments into Jordanian capital markets. It plans to underwrite new share issues, manage loan syndications, arrange issues of bonds and debentures for capital borrowers in the country.

"We seek to give businessmen peace of mind through financial planning. They will know this capital is available for a fixed period of time. They will be able to make arrangements to repay it," the chairman said.

The bank does not expect Jordanian business to develop expert financial management overnight. Where institutions, particularly the new or smaller companies, lack modern financial planning departments the Arab-Jordanian Investment Bank will undertake the studies for projects, advise on finance, arrange and manage loans and follow through the projects as financial advisers to the company. "If we decide a project is feasible we will offer a complete management package -- not just the money," said Mr. Al Qadi.

The bank may participate in projects by purchasing shares, extending financing from its own resources or raising finance on local and international money markets.

Mr. Al Qadi rebuts the convictions of some commercial bankers in Amman that there is little room in Amman for the sophisticated services of his kind of bank offering medium and long-term finance.

"The size of the country, its activities and its future all guarantee that there will be expanding opportunities for the services we are developing," he said. The eleven-man board of directors elected at yesterday's meeting at the Professional Associations Complex for a four-year term includes Mr. Dawud Al Qutob, Dr. Kamal Sha'er and representatives of the Housing Bank, the Jordan Insurance Company, the International construction and Investment Company, the Qatar National Bank, the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, the Riyadh-based Arab Investment Company, the Saudi Arabian National Commercial Bank and the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank. The new bank's JD 5 million capital is in five million shares of which 60 per cent are held by Jordanian interests; 50 per cent of the share capital has been paid up, 25 per cent has been called for by June 15 and the balance of 25 per cent is due on Sept. 15 this year.

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# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC RADIO	AMMAN AIRPORT	USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)
<b>Channel 3 &amp; 6:</b> 19:00 Quran 19:15 Arabic programme for children 19:45 Programme of competitions 19:55 Encyclopedia 20:05 Religious programme 20:15 Arabic songs 20:30 Religious programme 20:45 Religious programme 20:55 Arabic series 21:00 The Angels 21:10 Soccer Match 21:20 Arabic programme 21:30 The Virginian 21:40 News in Arabic 21:55 Marcus Welby (M.D.) 22:00 News in Arabic 22:10 Andrus Target <b>Channel 3:</b> 19:30 Religious programme 19:45 Reportage 20:00 Arabic series 20:10 Channel 6 20:30 News in Hebrew 20:45 Living tomorrow 20:50 What happened to the likely Lade 21:10 The Brothers (Part III) 21:20 News in English <b>Channel 6:</b> 19:30 Religious programme 19:45 Reportage 20:00 Arabic series 20:10 Channel 3 20:30 News in Hebrew 20:45 Living tomorrow 20:50 What happened to the likely Lade 21:10 The Brothers (Part III) 21:20 News in English	GMT 05:00 News: 24 Hours 05:30 Sarah Ward 05:45 World Today 06:00 News 06:30 What's New 06:45 News: 24 Hours 07:00 Sarah Ward 07:15 News: Reflections 07:30 Schaefer plays Beethoven 07:45 Take it or Leave it 08:00 News: Press Review 08:15 World Today 08:30 Financial News 08:45 Music Now 09:00 News: 24 Hours 09:15 News: World Today 09:30 News: World Today 09:45 News: World Today 10:00 News: World Today 10:15 News: World Today 10:30 News: World Today 10:45 News: World Today 11:00 News: World Today 11:15 News: World Today 11:30 News: World Today 11:45 News: World Today 12:00 News: World Today 12:15 News: World Today 12:30 News: World Today 12:45 News: World Today 13:00 News: World Today 13:15 News: World Today 13:30 News: World Today 13:45 News: World Today 14:00 News: World Today 14:15 News: World Today 14:30 News: World Today 14:45 News: World Today 15:00 News: World Today 15:15 News: World Today 15:30 News: World Today 15:45 News: World Today 16:00 News: World Today 16:15 News: World Today 16:30 News: World Today 16:45 News: World Today 17:00 News: World Today 17:15 News: World Today 17:30 News: World Today 17:45 News: World Today 18:00 News: World Today 18:15 News: World Today 18:30 News: World Today 18:45 News: World Today 19:00 News: World Today 19:15 News: World Today 19:30 News: World Today 19:45 News: World Today 20:00 News: World Today 20:15 News: World Today 20:30 News: World Today 20:45 News: World Today 21:00 News: World Today 21:15 News: World Today 21:30 News: World Today 21:45 News: World Today 22:00 News: World Today 22:15 News: World Today 22:30 News: World Today 22:45 News: World Today 23:00 News: World Today 23:15 News: World Today 23:30 News: World Today 23:45 News: World Today 24:00 News: World Today	Arrivals: 3:00 Jeddah (EXT) 7:15 Damascus (EXT) 7:30 Cairo (EA) 8:00 Baghdad 8:10 Baghdad (IA) 8:50 Aqaba 9:50 Kuwait (KAC) 10:30 Jeddah (EXT) 10:45 New York (RJ-GF) 10:50 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (Taron) 11:40 London 12:00 Madrid, Athens 12:15 Jeddah, Medina (SDI) 12:30 Paris, Rome 12:45 Paris, Beirut (AF) 12:50 Damascus (EXT) 13:00 Beirut (MEA) 13:10 Medina, Jeddah (SDI) 13:30 Frankfurt, Munich, Dusseldorf (LH) 13:40 Cairo 13:50 Jeddah (EXT) 14:15 Tehran (EXT) Departures: 4:15 Damascus (EXT) 4:30 Jeddah (EXT) 4:45 Beirut (MEA) 4:55 Cairo (EA) 5:00 Beirut 5:10 Baghdad (IA) 5:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (Taron) 5:30 Kuwait (KAC) 5:40 Damascus (EXT) 5:50 Larnaca, Bucharest (Taron) 6:00 Damascus (RJ-GF) 6:10 Beirut, Tehran (EXT) 6:20 Cairo 6:30 Doha, Karachi (RJ-GF) 6:40 Medina, Jeddah (SDI) 6:50 Jeddah (EXT) 7:00 Kuwait 7:10 Tehran (EXT) 7:20 Doha, Muscat (RJ-GF)	Ambulance (government) Tel. 75111 Civil defence rescue 22491-4 Fire headquarters 22900 Fire, fire, police 19 Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36361-2 Municipal water service (emergency) 37111-3 Police headquarters 39141 Najdah roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help 21111, 37777 Airport information (Alia) 55205 Jordan Television 73111 Radio, English Section 74124
RADIO JORDAN	VOICE OF AMERICA	CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)	CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)
7:00 Sign-on 7:10 Morning Show 7:30 News Bulletin 7:45 News Headlines 8:00 Morning Show 8:15 Country Music 11:00 Listeners Choice 12:00 News Headlines 12:15 Listeners Choice 12:30 News Summary 12:45 Pop Session 13:00 News Bulletin 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 Music 14:30 Travels of Ibn Sabatara 14:45 Concert Hour 15:00 Pedagogical Pop 15:15 Music 15:30 Role of Islam 15:45 Pop Session 16:00 News Summary 16:15 Faces and places 16:30 Jordan Weekly 16:45 News Bulletin 17:00 Music 17:10 Sign-off	GMT 03:00 The Breakfast Show 03:30 News 04:00 News 04:30 News 05:00 News 05:30 News 06:00 News 06:30 News 07:00 News 07:30 News 08:00 News 08:30 News 09:00 News 09:30 News 10:00 News 10:30 News 11:00 News 11:30 News 12:00 News 12:30 News 13:00 News 13:30 News 14:00 News 14:30 News 15:00 News 15:30 News 16:00 News 16:30 News 17:00 News 17:30 News 18:00 News 18:30 News 19:00 News 19:30 News 20:00 News 20:30 News 21:00 News 21:30 News 22:00 News 22:30 News 23:00 News 23:30 News 24:00 News	American Centre Tel. 41520 British Council 36147-4 French Cultural Centre 37009 Goethe Institute 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre 42403 Haya Arts Centre 65185 Hussein Youth City 36341 Y.W.C.A. 41793 Y.W.M.C.A. 64251 Amman Municipal Library 36111 University of Jordan Library 65111 Citadel Museum 36191 Folklore Museum 36191	Al Hama Theatre Tel. 226-448 Al Sha'bi Art Gallery 226-527 American Centre 562-362 Arab Cultural Centre 323-727 Deutsch Demokratische Republik Cultural Centre 323-632 French Cultural Centre 330-494 Kabkabi Theatre 222-016 National Museum 114-854 Soviet Cultural Centre 225-630 Spanish Cultural Centre 394-003 Urulan Art Gallery 394-619 Zakariya Public Library 111-318
EMERGENCIES	VOICE OF AMERICA	CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)	USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)
Doctors: Amman: George Sayegh (21378) Elias Imseeh (74073) Irbid: Amman Abu Abdeh (2278) Zarqa: Yehya Turfili (82684) Taxis: Rainbow (87248) Rainbow (22223)	GMT 03:00 The Breakfast Show 03:30 News 04:00 News 04:30 News 05:00 News 05:30 News 06:00 News 06:30 News 07:00 News 07:30 News 08:00 News 08:30 News 09:00 News 09:30 News 10:00 News 10:30 News 11:00 News 11:30 News 12:00 News 12:30 News 13:00 News 13:30 News 14:00 News 14:30 News 15:00 News 15:30 News 16:00 News 16:30 News 17:00 News 17:30 News 18:00 News 18:30 News 19:00 News 19:30 News 20:00 News 20:30 News 21:00 News 21:30 News 22:00 News 22:30 News 23:00 News 23:30 News 24:00 News	American Centre Tel. 41520 British Council 36147-4 French Cultural Centre 37009 Goethe Institute 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre 42403 Haya Arts Centre 65185 Hussein Youth City 36341 Y.W.C.A. 41793 Y.W.M.C.A. 64251 Amman Municipal Library 36111 University of Jordan Library 65111 Citadel Museum 36191 Folklore Museum 36191	Ambulance (government) Tel. 75111 Chamber of Commerce 118-329 Electric Power Co. (repair) 223-877 Fire headquarters 22900 Information 36191 Municipal water service 37111-3 Time (in Arabic) 80

# American coal miners strike finally over

WASHINGTON, April 6 (R). — The final end of America's longest coal strike was assured yesterday when mine construction workers who had been holding out approved a new contract by a margin of almost two to one.

A spokesman for the United Mine Workers (UMW) union said that with all but five of 51 branches reporting the vote was 2,567 for and 1,427 against.

There were not enough potential negative votes outstanding to prevent ratification, he added.

The 160,000 coal miners approved a new contract on March 24 after a 110-day walkout.

but tentative agreement on a pact covering some 14,000 construction workers was not negotiated until three days later.

Picketing by the construction workers, who build tunnels and above-ground structures, kept thousands of miners idle for several days after the main coal strike ended.

The UMW spokesman said the low voting turnout by the construction workers -- about

30 per cent compared with the miners' 60 per cent -- was partly because of the transient nature of the work and the traditionally high turnover of employees.

The construction workers' pact gives them essentially the same settlement as the miners, who gained an increase in wages and benefits totalling about 37 per cent over three years.

## Giant insect, or bug-eyed house?



At first glance, this house in southern Illinois appears to be a giant insect. Designed and built by its owners, the two-story structure combines numerous conservation and energy-saving features, from solar heating and water recycling systems to wood-burning stoves. The "eyes" are bubble-like windows which capture the sun's rays for light and heat. (UPI photo)

## Saudi Arabia to build first solar-powered electricity plant

RIYADH, April 6 (R). — Saudi Arabia is to build its first electricity plant powered by solar energy under a five-million rial (\$1.5 million) contract signed with the French firm Solfrance here yesterday.

The 240-kilowatt plant will be used for water pumping and illumination, according to the industry and Electricity Minister, Dr. Ghazi Al Qusaihi, who signed the agree-

ment for Saudi Arabia. Dr. Al Qusaihi also said that his country sought effective participation in special research on solar energy. Last month it hosted an international symposium on the exploitation of solar energy. Saudi Arabia has also an agreement with the United States providing for the development of solar energy to be used in water desalination.

## Law of Sea delegates approve former Sri Lankan ambassador as president of conference

GENEVA, Switzerland, April 6 (AP). — Ending a bitter nine-day procedural wrangle, delegates to the United Nations sea law talks early today decided to keep Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe as conference president.

Confirmation of the former ambassador of Sri Lanka in New York came in two rare votes in the more than four year-old talks that work on a standing rule that important

decisions should be taken by consensus.

Conference sources said the majority of delegations, standing firmly behind Mr. Amerasinghe, forced the vote as the only way out of what was shaping up as a permanent deadlock over the Latin American bloc's insistence he was no longer entitled to hold the post.

Meeting in a closed night session the conference approved a proposal by the Asian bloc of countries confirming Amerasinghe as president by a vote of 74-18 with 13 abstentions, the sources said.

Earlier the meeting threw out a Latin American proposal against Mr. Amerasinghe by a vote of 73-21 with 14 abstentions. That vote was whether the bloc's proposal, tabled by Mexico, should be given priority.

There was no vote on the proposal itself which said the presidential issue must be settled by consensus, instead of by voting.

It was precisely the failure to come up with even a near consensus which blocked any solution and approval of the Latin American proposal could well have made the deadlock permanent.

But it was not certain the procedural battle was over and the conference can resume its work of drafting a universal convention to govern future

ocean exploration and exploitation.

The Latin American countries objected to Mr. Amerasinghe because he was fired as ambassador and delegate following a change in the Sri Lanka government. They also rejected keeping him on in his personal capacity, as his supporters proposed, a procedure to which Sri Lanka itself does not object.

**Latin objection**

The Latin American states have said a president representing no government could be easily manipulated and they objected to setting a precedent for a practice where an exiled politician opposing his own government may become head of a conference in which that government is a participant.

The Latin American bloc also has objected to Amerasinghe's authority in making changes in the basic conference document -- essentially a draft sea law convention worked out by the chairmen of the three conference commissions on the basis of the debate in the past six sessions.

Mexico announced in a news conference two days ago, once the dispute over Mr. Amerasinghe is solved, the Latin American countries will immediately take up the issue of the president's drafting authority, no matter who he is.

## Israeli teachers join wave of labour unrest

TEL AVIV, April 6 (R). — Over one million Israeli pupils and students missed classes today when their teachers declared a one-day strike, joining the wave of current labour unrest in Israel.

Labour disputes have already led to a lock-out at El Al national airline and silenced the state-owned radio and television services.

The teachers' action hit elementary and high schools and teachers' seminars, except along Israel's northern border where teachers agreed to make up for time lost during the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon.

Teachers have threatened to call an indefinite strike after the Passover recess at the end of April to press their demands for pay increases of between 30 and 35 per cent.

Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich has said that 15 per cent is the ceiling for pay increases out of the state budget.

Meanwhile, the El Al lock-out continued though El Al management complied with a court order last night to

allow two Israeli cargo jumbo jets to leave for Europe carrying farm products.

Earlier, flower-growers had threatened to strew thousands of blooms along the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road to protest against the El Al closure which had grounded thousands of flowers destined for Europe.

El Al management, backed by the government, plans to re-organise the airline following labour unrest among maintenance and administrative staff.

Airport sources said other airlines had been swamped by bookings from stranded El Al passengers since the closure on Tuesday.

Israeli radio and television services remained off the air with only army radio operating as broadcasting journalists continued their strike for an interim 25 per cent pay increase.

The Israeli Journalists Association has threatened to renew its just-concluded daily newspaper strike if the government continues to block the increase for radio and T.V. newsmen.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Not received

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

Not received

Price of gold closed in London Thursday at \$181.00/oz.

## Dollar rises in Tokyo slightly

TOKYO, April 6 (R). — The U.S. dollar rose slightly on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market today after an initial setback when it fell to the postwar record low rate of 218 yen established last Monday.

The dollar closed at 218.95 yen, compared with a 218.10 opening and 219.40 at last night's close. No central bank intervention was detected in light trading, dealers said.

The initial fall reflected the dollar's slump in New York overnight.

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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1978

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**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** You've been waiting for a day like this. Put in effect a course of action you are convinced will bring a great deal more success and prosperity to you. You can also charm others into going along with you in your plans.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Be pleasant with others and state our aims and gain their cooperation. Avoid one who is not a good friend and could only hurt you.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Contact advisers and gain the ideas and suggestions that can be most helpful to you. Be more aware of the feelings of loved ones and be happier. Take no risks with reputation.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Contact new acquaintances who can assist you to gain personal aims more quickly. Get out to group affairs where you can make new contacts. Don't neglect to pay pressing bills.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** Go to the most prominent leader you know and get help you need of a civic nature. Do something that will be of assistance to your community.

**LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21)** Look into new projects that can assist you to become more successful in the future. Follow intuition about handling a very important matter. Don't listen to opinions of others who are jealous of you.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Study your promises from every angle and know best how to carry through with them intelligently.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Try to get ahead on the work before you. Have a talk with co-workers and coordinate efforts more effectively. Don't be led around by the nose by an inferior.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Put ideas to work that will help you to have better health and vitality. Suggestions made in the past finally begin to pay off.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Plan to have more social pleasure in the future and in the circles that appeal to you. Show more devotion to those you truly like.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Shop around for appliances that will make work easier. Entertain persons you like at home which could lead to fine things ahead.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** You are clever now in finding better ways of increasing productivity in business, so put them to use quickly. First discuss them with your allies and get their okay. Be careful of strangers.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Put that plan to work quickly that can improve your financial status appreciably. Try to please bigwigs and get good results.

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# Victoria and Albert Museum in London-- a teaching museum with a sense of fun

The Victoria and Albert Museum in London is traditionally a teaching museum, but its teaching methods have become decidedly less orthodox in recent years. Today there are jolly "happenings" such as the demonstration of trompe l'oeil painting which held parties of children more in thrall than mere interest.

By Leonore Blackwood

LONDON (LPS) — "It's not really there, it's painted," could well have been the astonished comment of many of the children who found themselves part of recent "happenings" at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. But it was also the title of this particular happening, a demonstration of trompe l'oeil painting.

And "it" wasn't really there, "it" was indeed painted -- as the children discovered when they got closer to the smiling museum attendant standing at the entrance to the room used as an artist's studio.

The dummy board figure was a likeness of a member of the museum staff, strikingly recalling the function of the old "door porters" or "silent companions" as these figures were often called in the days when they were used to delude visitors into over-estimating the number of housemaids, footmen, gardeners and grooms staffing some establishment.

But the artist John Ronayne was a dummy, he was very real and hard at work creating his illusions from opening to closing time for some three weeks during a recent holiday period.

Visitors found a good selection of typical subjects for a trompe l'oeil artist, all done on the spot, to intrigue them. After discovering that at a distance it was well nigh impossible to tell which was the real victim and which was painted on the wall, and distinguishing with some difficulty between actual and illusory doors on a painted wall cupboard, they could go back again to the artist and stand and watch the slow, painstaking process of making a painted letter rack look as real as the model.

Exhibitions and happenings such as "It's not really there, it's painted" which involve people are a feature of the V and A, as the museum is affectionately known, for its director Dr. Roy Strong, believes that people want to

see how things are made and how they work.

Focal point of the visit

Dr. Strong is keen that the museum should become a family museum, and if you go along there any Sunday or school holiday you will see families making a visit the highlight of a day out together. The particular "happenings" of the time often become both the focal point of the visit and the springboard to some other aspect of the museum's vast collection.

The creation of these special programmes is the responsibility of the Education Department, which started some ten years ago, although from the museum's inception of 1851 its tradition has been that of a teaching museum. Founded, with the idea of being an inspiration to craftsmen, it was later expanded to cover fine as well as decorative arts.

All members of the department were formerly teachers, most of them having a speciality of their own to call on. The acting keeper, Geoffrey Squire, was originally a theatre designer and joined as a specialist on costume. With the aid of a panel of freelance teachers, a comprehensive programme free to all is organised.

Any school, college or university at home or abroad can arrange to bring a group to the museum. A great many overseas universities, particularly those in the United States of America, take advantage of this service and some groups spend two or three days at the museum.

Discussions, not lectures

Invariably, either one of their teachers makes a preliminary visit to work with the department's staff or a staff member personally takes the group around. Geoffrey Squire emphasises that as far as possible they avoid lecturing on these tours and base their teaching on discussion.

In the public area free lectures are a regular feature, usually arranged in short courses, and apart from those

in English there are days set apart for studies in French, German and Italian which are often used as language as well as art courses.

With the family in mind, the highly popular Sunday lectures are planned to be as lively as possible so that young visitors will be interested. These have had to be abandoned temporarily as the main lecture hall is being altered and redecorated, but it is business as usual when it comes to the Christmas and Easter holiday programmes for young people which the department has devised with great success.

Imagine the enchantment of a stage struck child on being able to walk on to a stage specially constructed to demonstrate the principles of the Italian and Continental system of scene changing in the 18th century theatre, and actually to work some of the effects. This happened in a past exhibition called "Secrets of the stage".

Invitation to touch

And what greater joy could there be for a young person not only to find an absence of "Please do not touch" notices but a positive invitation to do so -- even to get up on a medieval tomb and lie down on it.

"Bodybox" is aimed at getting children to appreciate sculpture and themselves in three dimensional terms, and to this end a troupe of dancers



In keeping with its traditional role as a teaching museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London is often a classroom with a difference. Here a teacher explains some of the museum's treasures to a party of schoolchildren.

children were brought in to move among the sculptures and to be touched and put into positions.

"Looking at China figures" had a craftsman from one of the porcelain factories showing the children how such figures are made, and for "A fair sword in the hand..." actors from a local drama school demonstrated that there was art and style in the use of many swords and daggers of the past, as well as in their making.

Testing their own skills

In some of the programmes children get the chance to try out their own skills, but always in relation to the museum's collection. After a period in the Costume Court, young designers were asked to design a 19th century bonnet for Easter, and a close examination of the beauty and intricacy of embroidery was followed by a practical demonstration and the handing out of materials for the

children to get down to work of their own.

The only stipulation that went with an invitation to bring along an original percussion instrument, or even an orthodox one, to "The sea, ships and sailors", a music workshop, was that children under seven years old should have someone with them to stop them banging it in the wrong places.

Yes, as Roy Strong claims, it's always fun at the V and A.

# Ambitious Mobutu plan may stop rot in Zaire's economy

By Alan Cowell

KINSHASA, (R). — President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire has launched an ambitious master plan aimed at salvaging the economy of this mineral-rich country now struggling under the weight of an estimated two-billion dollar foreign debt.

Western banks and governments -- Zaire's main creditors -- will have a crucial role to play if the "Mobutu plan" is to succeed in halting runaway inflation and fostering economic development despite the slump in world copper prices -- Zaire's main source of foreign exchange.

The United States, Belgium, France, Britain, West Germany, Iran and Saudi Arabia plan to meet soon to discuss implementation of the Mobutu plan.

It calls for measures to increase the country's mining output and to make Zaire self-sufficient in food supplies.

According to financial sources, South Africa is at present this country's main supplier of food imports at an annual cost to Zaire of some 300 million dollars.

Transport overhaul

The plan also aims at an overhaul of the internal transport system in order to cut down on the six to eight weeks it now takes for copper exports to reach the Zaire coast from the main mining province of Shaba (formerly Katanga) in the south.

Copper exports have been hit by the closure of the Benguela railway through Marxist Angola since the former Portuguese colony's independence in 1975. More than half Zaire's exports are now transported through Zambia, Rhodesia and South Africa -- the euphemistically-titled "southern route."

Copper brings in 65 to 70 per cent of Zaire's vitally-needed foreign currency. Most of Zaire's foreign loans were made in the early 1970's when the price of copper was high.

The 1974-1975 fall in copper prices badly damaged the economy, which was also set back last year by a costly military operation against rebels in Shaba.

Bid for a loan

Whether or not Zaire gets its hands on a 210-million dollar syndicated loan led by Citibank N.A. will depend on the government agreeing to adopt a stabilisation programme approved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and on catching up with debt repayments, according to financial sources.

Eurobankers in London said the five-year loan with an 18-month grace period will be signed in the third week of April. The funds may only be used to finance essential imports such as agricultural and industrial raw materials and spare parts.

Negotiations for the loan began in November 1976 when Zaire worked out an agreement on rescheduling around 750 million dollars' worth of loans from a group of American, European and Japanese banks.

Zaire's main creditor nations -- the United States, West Germany, Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland -- last summer agreed to reschedule interest payments on government-backed

loans to Zaire. About 70 per cent of Zaire's estimated long-term foreign debt of two billion dollars is reported to be owed to governments.

IMF team expected

An IMF team is expected in Zaire soon and the fund will seek to play a major role in the management of the economy.

Zaire agreed last February to an IMF official taking the number two job at the Central Bank here, but experts are sceptical about how much real power he will wield in the handling of the country's hard currency revenues.

The 1978 budget is at present three months overdue because no acceptable level of deficit has yet been worked out with the IMF.

One of the economic problems besetting Zaire is a five per cent decline in terms of gross national product (GNP).

When President Mobutu unveiled his plan in a major speech last November, he castigated his countrymen for the graft and misappropriation which seem to plague the country's economy.

Failed nationalisation programme

President Mobutu also admitted that the 1973-1974 programme of compulsory nationalisation of foreign companies had failed.

According to experts, the nationalisation policy led to a drastic fall in agricultural and industrial production. The policy has now been reversed and some 10,000 Belgians, Greeks, Pakistanis and Lebanese, whose property was originally nationalised, have since returned to this country.

"It's too early to say what the impact on productivity will be," said one Western economic expert. "In the short term, the best we can hope for, is that the rot will be stopped."

He added: "The technical problems are big, but not insuperable. The real issue is the psychological one of changing the whole attitude to the economy."



## THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



